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Central Intelligence Agency

Washington, D.C. 20505

22 June 1992

The Honorable John F. Kerry
Chairman
Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20510

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Dear Mr. Chairman: .

This is in response to the Committee's request of April 3, 1992 for information on the Ministry of Interior organization, structure and management of the prison camp system in Vietnam. A review of all Agency file holdings [redacted] on the security services of Vietnam was done in order to prepare the enclosed recently completed six-part study. This required the careful review of extensive file holdings on the services, as well as the review of [redacted]. The elements of the study may be found at the following tabs:

- TAB A: Ministry of Interior
Prisons and Interrogation Systems
- TAB B: Ministry of Interior Reeducation
Camps and Prisons (Northern SRV
Except the Hanoi Area)
- TAB C: Ministry of Interior and National Defense
Prisons and Reeducation Camps (Southern
SRV Except Ho Chi Minh City)
- TAB D: Ministry of Interior and National Defense
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Reeducation Camp Complex (Northern SRV
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The Honorable John F. Kerry

During our search for information on this subject, we located a study published in 1975 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] There is a statement in the introduction to the publication which states that the DRV planned to keep some Americans secretly. In light of the seriousness of this implication, we are assembling the documentation used in the study in an attempt to clarify how such a conclusion was reached. The author of the report is participating in the review. We are taking this very seriously and hope to have this review completed by the end of June. We will provide the report together with the results of our review to the Committee as soon as they are available.

An original of this letter is also being sent to Vice Chairman Smith.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Director of Congressional Affairs

Enclosures

Ministry of Interior
Prisons and Interrogations System

1. The Socialist Republic of Vietnam (SRV) Ministry of Interior and its predecessor Ministry of Public Security (MPS) were responsible for the administration and management of all labor reform, reeducation, prison, interrogation, and temporary detention facilities for various categories of domestic civil and political criminals, including civilian and military SRV government and communist party officials who committed criminal and political offenses. Through its Military Security Department, which was overtly under the Ministry of National Defense General Political Department, it had extended responsibilities for all interrogation, prison, and detention facilities for military offenders, which were administered, managed and/or guarded by the Military Security Department or under the name of the MND General Political Department's Military Justice Department. The MOI and its predecessor MPS were also responsible for the administration and interrogation of non-Vietnamese foreign nationals in special detention and interrogation facilities which were usually reserved for national-level political, espionage, and security-related cases.

2. The MOI central authority for prisons dates back to the official overt establishment date of the security service on 19 August 1945, and has been known by several name variants since it became a departmental entity under its predecessor MPS in 1961/1962. Between July 1954 and 1961, it was called (Prisons) Labor Reform Service 5 (Vu Cai Lao 5) aka Reeducation Management Service 5 (Vu Quan Giao 5). During the period 1962-June 1975, it was most often referred to as the Prisons Management Department (Cuc Quan Ly Trai Giam) or Department C-51 (1961-1970) or Department K-54 (1970-June 1975). It was also known as the Labor Reform Department (Cuc Cai Tao Lao Dong/Cuc Cai Lao), Reeducation Department (Cuc Cai Tao), and Reeducation Management Department (Cuc Quan Giao).

3. The Prisons Management Department was responsible for the direct administration and management of all central-level prisons, labor reform and reeducation camps. It provided staff guidance and direction to major city and provincial public security offices (PSO's), which had their own prisons, reeducation camps, and district-level detention facilities. It

KH-6 personnel and offered six- to 18-month courses in prisons management, internal camp security, indoctrination (education management) and interrogation. Indoctrinators and interrogators received 18-month courses, while internal camp security personnel took six-month courses. Graduates were assigned to KH-6 administered facilities, as well as to prisons and temporary detention facilities administered by the prisons management police offices of major city and provincial PSO's. A KH-6 School Annex was established sometime before 1980 at the MOI-B KH-6B Prisons Management Police Department's Z-30A Reeducation Camp in Dong Nai Province, southern SRV. As of 1980, the Z-30A Camp was the only camp in the southern MOI-B prisons systems which gave courses in prisons management. In 1980, a three-month course was given to 200 MOI-B KH-6B Prisons Management Police Department cadre.

7. As of mid-1981, KH-6 had the largest number of personnel in the MOI with at least 7,000 personnel under its direct supervision. KH-6 maintained staff offices at the Central Hoa Lo Prison and at 10 Tran Hung Dao Street, Hanoi. As of mid-1981, Major General (one-star) Le Huu Qua had been the KH-6 Director since at least 1968. Senior Colonel Nguyen Sang became a deputy director in 1979 and was known as one of the harshest and most infamous prisons directors while at the Central Quyet Tien Prison during 1964-1972. Senior Colonel Ngoan Sy was a KH-6 Deputy Director who headed the MOI-B KH-6B Prisons Management Police Department in HCMC. The MOI-B KH-6B Department was located inside the Chi Hoa Prison in HCMC where Senior Colonel Ngoan Sy had his staff office.

8. In developing its prisons system in the early 1960's, the MOI's MPS predecessor separated its professional interrogation functions from routine prisons management, internal prison security, inmate education management, and external prison security guard functions. This occurred in 1961/1962 when a professionally-staffed Interrogation Department (Cuc Chap Phap) or Department C-44 evolved out of MPS Prisons Labor Reform Service 5 Interrogation Office 4. The Interrogation Department was responsible for the pre-trial interrogation and investigation of criminal, political, and espionage suspects, and for providing staff guidance, direction and personnel to major city and provincial public security service interrogation offices/sections.

9. Between June 1975 and October 1981, the Interrogation Department was officially designated as the KH-5 Interrogation

Department (Cuc Chap Phap) of the MOI's People's Police Bloc. KH-5 continued to be responsible for the pre-trial interrogation and investigation of major civil criminals and political offenders for statements to be used by state prosecutors in people's trial proceedings. KH-5 had the power of arrest and the authority to conduct warrantless physical searches for evidence, which were officially requested by the MOI's People's Police, Counterespionage and Intelligence, and Economic Security Blocs. KH-5 had no known responsibilities for the interrogation of foreigners and suspected espionage cases, which fell under the purview of the MOI's Counterespionage and Intelligence Bloc.

10. The KH-5 Interrogation Department was headed by Senior Colonel Tran Lung (1976-1981) and his deputy, Lieutenant Colonel Nguyen Thiep. KH-5 was headquartered inside the Central Hoa Lo Prison in Hanoi and had a small staff in the large "U-shaped" building inside the main MOI Headquarters compound at 15 Tran Binh Trong Street. KH-5 had about 200 professional male and female staff interrogators under its direct control, an unknown number of whom were assigned to special interrogation facilities in the Hanoi area and in HCMC.

11. Following the reorganization of the MOI into a general department structure in October 1981, the KH-5 Interrogation Department and the KH-6 Prisons Management Police Department were reorganized. KH-5 Interrogation Department responsibilities for civil criminal pre-trial interrogations and investigations were placed under the C-16 Police Interrogation-Investigations Department (Cuc Canh Sat Dieu Tra Xet Hoi) of the newly established MOI General Department for People's Police (Tong Cuc Canh Sat Nhan Dan/GDPP). KH-5 Interrogation Department responsibilities for domestic and foreign political counterreactionary, counterrevolutionary, economic security, sabotage, espionage, and national security pre-trial interrogation and investigation cases were placed under the A-24 Security Interrogations and Investigations Department (Cuc An Ninh Dieu Tra Xet Hoi) of the newly established MOI General Department for People's Security (Tong Cuc An Ninh Nhan Dan/GDPS) which later became known as the General Department for Counterintelligence (Tong Cuc Phan Gian/GDCI) in 1989. As of mid-1991, A-24 was headed by Colonel Hoang Duy Vien and his deputy, Colonel Nguyen Cong Nhuan. The KH-6 Prisons Management Police Department was reorganized with functions split between the C-24 Prisons Management Police Department (Cuc Canh Sat Quan Ly Trai Giam) of the GDPP and the A-19 Reeducation Management Department (Cuc Quan Ly Nguoi Hop Tap Cai Tao) of the GDPS which became the GDCI in 1989.

12. During the Vietnam War years, the MPS had primary responsibility for the administration, care, detention, interrogation, and exploitation of U.S. POW's. Although the Ministry of National Defense (MND) was involved in the handling, interrogation and exploitation of U.S. POW's, MND entities were required to obtain MPS authorization before interrogating U.S. POW's in MPS-administered facilities. Several MPS departments were involved with U.S. POW's during the period August 1964-March 1973. Although other MPS departments may have been involved, only the MPS General Research, Intelligence, Interrogation, Logistics (Rear Services), Prisons, and Technical Departments, and the MPS People's Armed Public Security Forces (PAPSF) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] PAPSF responsibilities were limited to providing external perimeter guard force personnel for MPS-administered facilities for U.S. POW's.

13. The MND was reported to have complete records on all U.S. aircraft shot down in North Vietnam by date, time, place, and was reported to have complete records on all captured U.S. personnel. The MND also had records, presumably less complete, on dead air crew members who were shot down over North Vietnamese soil in areas where they were observed and/or were searched for crash sites. [REDACTED] U.S. POW's were not kept in MND-administered facilities, although some facilities were guarded by the MND.

14. The MPS was similarly reported to have kept complete records on all U.S. POW's who had been captured in North Vietnam and who had been transferred to prison facilities which were administered by the MPS and where interrogations were conducted. The Hoa Lo Prison, better known as the Hanoi Hilton, was the central processing detention and interrogation facility for all U.S. POW's who were so detained and interrogated. It was administered and staffed by the MPS Prisons Management Department. Since all known U.S. POW's who were transferred to Hanoi were first processed through the Hoa Lo Prison before being placed in other known prison annexes in North Vietnam, the MPS Prisons Management Department should have records on all transfers of U.S. POW's between Hoa Lo and all other known prison annexes in North Vietnam for U.S. POW's. This would include records on U.S. POW's who were placed in facilities that were reportedly jointly administered with the MPS by the MND General Political Department's Military Security Department, or were reportedly jointly guarded by the MND General Political Department's Military Justice Department.

15. [REDACTED] the MND Military Justice Department provided the external guard force for the Son Tay Prison and other U.S. POW detention facilities in North Vietnam before 1973 and that the internal administration of these facilities was under the MPS which maintained U.S. POW prison records and directed the interrogation of U.S. POW's at these facilities. [REDACTED] the MND Military Justice Department was responsible for the Son Tay or Camp Hope Prison of the 1970 Son Tay Raid fame, the Bat Bat or Briarpatch Prison (WJ 355388), and the Dan Hoi or Camp Faith Prison (WJ 751295). The Camp Hope Prison was not used again after the November 1970 Son Tay Raid but the facility continued to be administered by the MND Military Security Department until 1979. Although overtly under the MND General Political Department, the Military Security Department was in reality the MPS K-32 Military Security Department. The Bat Bat Prison was jointly administered by the MPS Prisons Management Department and by the Military Security Department. One former inmate who was released in the late 1970's claimed it was guarded by the Military Justice Department, although his release certificate was signed by the Military Security Department. The Dan Hoi facility was located inside a much larger compound which was occupied between the early 1970's and 1981 by the 75th Technical Reconnaissance (SIGINT) Regiment of the MND General Staff Department's Military Intelligence or Research Department (Cuc Nghien Cuu/CNC).

16. The MPS K-67 Technical Department (Cuc Ky Thuat) was tasked with providing mail and technical coverage at U.S. POW detention facilities. Audio Operations Office 1 personnel installed audio devices in detention cells and interrogation rooms in the Central Hoa Lo ("Hanoi Hilton") and at a number of other U.S. POW detention facilities in North Vietnam during the period 1968-1972. Audio Office 1 personnel manned listening posts which tape recorded conversations between U.S. POW's in bugged cells. Transcribed information was used to crosscheck interrogation statements. Audio Office 1 personnel were also used as English interpreters during the interrogation of U.S. POW's. The Son Tay, Hoa Binh and Vinh Phu facilities were the only facilities mentioned by their general provincial geographical locations rather than by their more specific prison names and locations.

17. The Son Tay facility is most likely the MPS Bat Bat or Mo Chen (Son Tay, Xom Ap Lo, "Briarpatch") Prison located at

WJ 355387 where over 65 U.S. POW's were detained and interrogated during 31 August-20 September 1965 and early December 1965-2 February 1967. The Hoa Binh facility is most likely the D-1 (Duong Ke, "Farnsworth") Camp located at WJ 689017 some 30 kilometers southwest of Hanoi in former Hoa Binh Province where about 35 U.S. POW's were held during the period 28 August 1968-25 November 1970. The Vinh Phu facility is most likely the "KA" Subcamp ("Dogpatch"/"Mountain Camp") of the MPS Central Vinh Quang Reeducation Camp located near Dao Tru Village in Tam Dao District, Vinh Phu Province, where 209 U.S. POW's were detained during May 1972-January 1973.

18. K-67 Technical Department Mail Censorship Office 2 personnel were also assigned to U.S. POW detention facilities in North Vietnam with the mission of intercepting and breaking written communications codes between U.S. POW's in the facilities. Office 2 personnel opened parcels and letters sent by relatives in the U.S. for contraband items (tiny saws, iron files) and censored outgoing letters written by U.S. POW's to relatives in the U.S. in order to detect secret writing messages. Office 2 personnel also interrogated U.S. POW's on their attempts to communicate between themselves and on methods used to send secret written messages to relatives in the U.S.

19. The MOI and its Hanoi Public Security Office (PSO) have at least twenty-two detention facilities in the Hanoi metropolitan area. However, information is not available on the detention facilities of the Hanoi PSO's fifteen district PSO's (Ba Dinh, Dong Anh, Dong Da, Gia Lam, Hai Ba Trung, Hoan Kiem, Thanh Tri, Tu Liem, Dan Phuong, Hoai Duc, Thach That, Phuc Tho, Ba Vi, Soc Son, Me Linh), or of the Son Tay and Ha Dong Township PSO's. U.S. POW's were held at three major facilities during the period August 1964-March 1973. Two of these three facilities were used to detain American and foreign nationals who were arrested after the communist takeover of South Vietnam on 30 April 1975. Comments follow on five MOI detention and interrogation facilities in the Hanoi metropolitan area.

Central Hoa Lo Prison

1. The French-built Central Hoa Lo Prison (WJ 884248) was located in downtown Hanoi and was directly administered by the MOI, and its predecessor Ministry of Public Security (MPS), since 1954 as a temporary pre-trial detention and interrogation facility. Hoa Lo was bordered by Hai Ba Trung, Hoa Lo, Hang Bong Ruom, and Quan Su Streets, and was a shared facility with the Hanoi PSO. The MOI and its Hanoi PSO used Hoa Lo to detain and interrogate major civil and political criminal suspects who had been arrested by the MOI or by the Hanoi PSO. Petty criminals were not reprimanded to Hoa Lo for pre-trial detention and interrogation. Political criminal suspects included anti-regime counterreactionary, counterrevolutionary, economic security, sabotage, and espionage cases. Hoa Lo could accommodate at least 300 inmates. After trial and sentencing, convicted Vietnamese inmates were transferred to MOI central-level prisons where they served their prison terms.

2. During the period 11 August 1964-16 March 1973, the end of Operation Homecoming, Hoa Lo was the central processing, detention and interrogation facility for U.S. POW's captured in North Vietnam who called it the "Hanoi Hilton." To accommodate the inflow of U.S. POW's at Hoa Lo, northern prisoners and captured ARVN/GVN commando-spies, singleton agents, and Mike Force personnel were transferred to other MPS central-level facilities in and outside the Hanoi area. When Hoa Lo began filling up with U.S. POW's they were transferred to one of eleven known annexes in and outside the Hanoi area. These annexes included those that were known by U.S. POW returnees as:

A. "Alcatraz," inside the Ministry of National Defense (MND) Headquarters compound bordering on Ly Nam De Street, Hanoi.

B. "Citadel" or the "Plantation" on Ly Nam De Street, across the street from the Ministry of National Defense Headquarters compound in downtown Hanoi.

C. "Cu Loc" or "Zoo" Prison off National Route 6 near the Bach Mai Airfield in southwestern Hanoi.

D. "D-1" Duong Ke, "Farnsworth" or Hoa Binh Camp (WJ 689017) about 30 kilometers southwest of Hanoi in former Hoa Binh Province.

E. Dan Hoi or "Camp Faith" (WJ 751295), 200 meters north of National Route 11A, across from Lai Village, Hoai Duc District, Hanoi.

F. "Dirty Bird" or "Power Plant," near the Hanoi Thermal Power Plant on Pham Hong Thai Street, Hanoi.

G. "Dogpatch", "Mountain Camp" or "KA" Camp of the MPS Central Vinh Quang Reeducation Camp, near Dao Tru Village, Tam Dao District, Vinh Phu Province.

H. "Rockpile" or Camp "ME" of the MPS Central Nam Reeducation Camp, about 65 kilometers south of Hanoi near Ba Sao and Phu Ly Villages in Phu Ly District, Ha Nam Ninh Province.

I. "Skidrow" or Thanh Liet Prison (WJ 851178), about 10 miles south of downtown Hanoi near Bang Liet and Thanh Liet Villages, Thanh Tri District, Hanoi.

J. Son Tay or "Camp Hope" (WJ 5337), administered by the MOI's MPS predecessor K-32 Military Security Department, target of the November 1970 Son Tay Raid.

K. Xom Ap Lo, "Briarpatch" Bat Bat, Mo Chen, or Son Tay Prison (WJ 355387), jointly administered by the MPS and its K-32 Military Security Department about 55 kilometers west of downtown Hanoi in Ba Vi District, west of Suoi Hai Lake near Ba Vi Mountain.

Thanh Liet Special Prison

1. The Thanh Liet Special Prison (Trai Biet Giam) was another French-built prison (WJ 851178) about 10 miles south of downtown Hanoi near Bang Liet and Thanh Liet Villages in Thanh Tri District, Hanoi. It was also known as the Bang Liet, Thanh Tri, and Xa Lim Bo Prison. It was a central-level pre-trial special detention and interrogation annex of the Central Hoa Lo Prison under the MOI/MPS Prisons Management Police Department. Between 1961 and 1969, captured ARVN/GVN and Royal Lao Vang Pao commando team members were held in isolation at Thanh Liet while the MPS exploited doubled (i.e. recruited) team radio operators to lure in resupply drops and augmentation teams. Northern political prisoners were also held at Thanh Liet without trial on temporary confinement orders.

2. Released ARVN commando inmates noted that the first U.S. POW's did not arrive at Thanh Liet until mid-1968, when Thanh Liet received several Americans and three Hong Kong Chinese who had been captured in Hue City during the 1968 Tet offensive. U.S. POW's were held at Thanh Liet between July 1968 and November 1971, during which period it was called "Camp Huey," "Skidrow," and other names by former U.S. POW detainees who were returned to the U.S. during the 1973 Operation Homecoming. Some 49 U.S. POW's spent some time in this facility.

3. In late 1969 - early 1970, all ARVN/GVN commando-spies, doubled radio operators and team members were transferred from Thanh Liet to the Central Quyet Tien Prison in Hoang Lien Son Province. Nine Royal Lao Vang Pao commandoes were held at Thanh Liet between July 1970 and March 1971 when they were transferred with 20 other ARVN/GVN commandos to Central Prison No. 1 in Hoang Lien Son Province.

4. As of July 1979, Thanh Liet was still used as a pre-trial temporary detention prison by the MOI Prisons Management Police Department. Following the October 1981 MOI reorganization, Thanh Liet became known as the B-14 Facility of the A-24 Security Interrogation-Investigations Department, General Department for People's Security (GDPS). The GDPS was later renamed the General Department for Counterintelligence (GDCI) in 1989.

5. During the period December 1981-April 1984, one 64-year-old male French-Vietnamese metis was held in B-14 Zone A along with several Chinese-recruited Vietnamese spies. As of July 1988-March 1989, B-14 was composed of two areas: one was used to detain convicted and sentenced SRV government civilian and PAVN political prisoners, and the other was used as a pre-trial temporary detention facility. The detention of PAVN personnel indicates that B-14 is a shared facility with the MOI's Military Security Department (Cuc Bao Ve Quan Doi/MSD).

6. On 30 March 1991, ethnic Vietnamese U.S. naturalized citizen Bui Duy Tam was arrested on charges of attempting to take sensitive classified material out of Vietnam which he had been allegedly given by SRV writer Madame Duong Thu Huong. She was arrested on national security charges on 14 April 1991. Bui Duy Tam and Madame Duong Thu Huong were detained at B-14. Tam was released and expelled from Vietnam on 31 May 1991 and Madame Huong was released on 20 November 1991. During the April-May 1991 period, SRV poet Nguyen Chi Tien, SRV doctor Ngo Quang Trung, and ethnic Vietnamese Australian citizen Vo Dai Ton (an anti-SRV resistance leader who was captured while leading a resistance force en route to Vietnam in 1981 by PAVN/Laos forces in Laos), were also held at B-14. Vo Dai Ton was released on 10 December 1991 and returned to Australia after ten years of imprisonment in Vietnam.

The Bat Bat (Mo Chen, Son Tay) Prison

1. The Bat Bat, Mo Chen or Son Tay Prison (WJ 355388) was located about 55 kilometers west of downtown Hanoi in Ba Vi District, west of Suoi Hai Lake near Ba Vi Mountain. It was about three kilometers southeast of Dam Long Lake (WJ 3441), two kilometers southeast of Bang Y Village (WJ 3440), and one kilometer south of Bang Ta Village (WJ 3641). Although more commonly called Bat Bat, it was originally known as the Mo Chen Prison. Bat Bat was one of three known prisons in the Son Tay area and was one of two called "Son Tay." It is not the Son Tay Camp of the November 1970 U.S. Son Tay Raid fame which was located west of Son Tay Township at WJ 5337. Bat Bat was one of the original central-level prisons in North Vietnam between 1954 and the early 1960's when it was known as Central Prison No. 1 (Trai Cai Tao Trung Uong So 1). As the inmate population increased at Bat Bat, the MPS expanded its prison system in the early 1960's with the construction of the Central Quyet Tien Prison and a new Central Prison No. 1 in Hoang Lien Son Province near the Chinese border. Bat Bat inmates were transferred to the Quyet Tien and Pho Lu Prisons to serve long prison terms at hard labor.

2. Bat Bat was reorganized with one subcamp under central MPS control and one adjacent subcamp transferred to its Military Security Department (MSD) which was overtly under the MND General Political Department. The two subcamps were located within 500 meters of each other. The MPS portion of Bat Bat became a special pre-trial interrogation and detention annex of the Central Hoa Lo Prison and was categorized as being a temporary detention prison (trao tam giam). The MSD portion of Bat Bat was also a pre-trial interrogation and detention facility for serious PAVN military offenders. Individuals sentenced to one year or less served their sentences at Bat Bat, while those who were convicted of more serious national-level offenses with longer sentences were transferred to MPS central-level prison facilities for the term of their sentences. The MPS portion of Mo Chen held political offenders and captured ARVN commando-spies, singleton agents, and ARVN Mike Force personnel. Captured ARVN/GVN commando-spies and singleton agents were held in this facility between 1962 and at least 1970. Commando-spy inmates were usually transferred after a year to the Central Yen Tho and Yen Hoa Prisons, later

combined into the Central Tan Lap Reeducation Camp, before final transfer to the Central Quyét Tien Prison.

3. The Bat Bat or Mo Chen facility was one of several MPS facilities which held U.S. POW's between August 1964 and March 1973 in North Vietnam. The Bat Bat Prison held U.S. POW's between 31 August-20 September 1965 and between early December 1965 and 2 February 1967 when all 56 U.S. POW inmates were transferred back to the Central Hoa Lo (Hanoi Hilton) Prison and its Cuu Loc (Zoo) annex. Former U.S. POW's knew it as the Xom Ap Lo Camp, the "Farm," "Briarpatch" or "Tic-Tac-Toe."

4. ~~F~~Former U.S. Marine Corps Private Robert R. Garwood stated that he was also at this same Son Tay Prison between February 1971-May 1975. Garwood's account of his stay here in a segregated hut outside the confinement areas is described in his book "Conversations with the Enemy".

5. Following the communist takeover of South Vietnam in April 1975, a number of PAVN personnel who had rallied and cooperated with the GVN were shipped from the South to the North where they were placed in the MSD-administered area of Bat Bat. Ten American civilian missionaries and USG officials who were captured during March-April 1975 in the southern SRV were transferred via air to Hanoi where they were placed in the MPS/MOI portion of the Bat Bat Prison. All were released with the Paul Struharik, a USAID official, group on 30/31 October 1975. USG civilian contract barge operator Arlo Gay, captured 30 April 1975 in Rach Gia, was held here between 7 October 1975 and 6 September 1976, when he was flown to HCMC where he was released on 21 September 1976 with his family.

6. A former Vietnamese inmate claimed he saw a Caucasian American living in a 5 x 2.5 meter hut between a stream and the detention area during August-October 1975. Another former Vietnamese inmate claimed he saw a Caucasian American in a small building near the camp kitchen by a stream during June-August 1976. At this time, Bat Bat was also known as the T-771 Camp and was commanded by Public Security Senior Captain Xinh. It held Northern political criminals, former PAVN defectors to the GVN, as well as two ARVN Military Security Service (MSS) colonels, one of whom was MSS Counterintelligence Directorate Chief Colonel Nguyen Xuan Hoc. One former ARVN officer who claimed to belong to an anti-SRV resistance group provided hearsay information from unnamed subsources who allegedly told him about 230 U.S. POW's were being held in 1977 at Bat Bat.

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7. As of June 1987, U.S. narcotics traffickers [REDACTED] [REDACTED] were the only confirmed Americans still held in detention in the northern SRV. They were picked up on their yacht "Sea Tiger" in 1977 off Phu Quoc Island, Kien Giang Province, southern SRV with an unknown size marijuana shipment which they were smuggling out of Thailand. The two were first imprisoned in Rach Gia City, Kien Giang Province, before being transferred to Hanoi where they were placed in the Bat Bat Prison.

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Ba Vi Prison

The Ba Vi Prison (WJ 435332) was located 10 kilometers southeast of the Bat Bat Prison on the north side of provincial route 213 in Ba Vi District, Hanoi. It was said to be an annex of the Bat Bat Prison, and held northern political prisoners in the 1960's. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] no foreign nationals were reported in detention at this facility.

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